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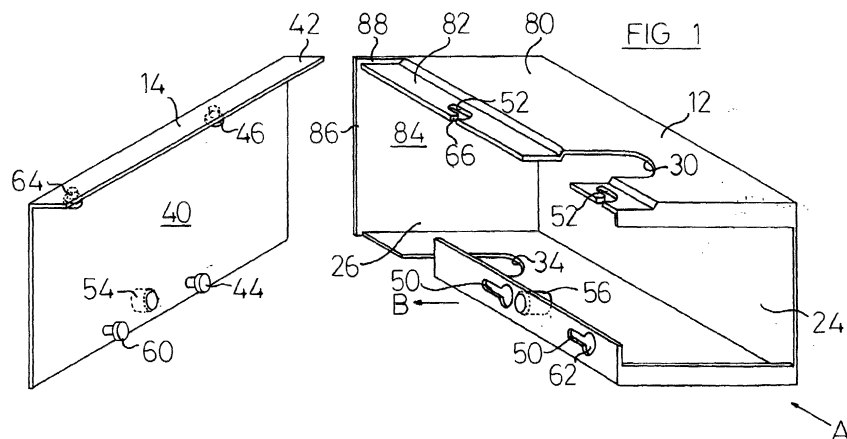
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(54) **Anti-theft device**

(57) This invention relates to an anti-theft device, and in particular to a device for reducing the likelihood of theft of a towed vehicle. According to the invention there is provided an anti-theft device for a towed or towing vehicle, the device comprising:

a first part (12) and a second part (14), the first and second parts being engageable together so as to enclose a volume within which a part of a hitch mechanism (20) of the vehicle can be located, one of the first and second parts having an element (30) which can cooperate with a part (32) of the hitch mechanism to prevent removal of the device whilst

the first and second parts are engaged, and lock means (16) to secure the first and second parts in their engaged condition, one of the first and second parts carrying at least one projecting member (44,46), the other of the first and second parts having a channel means (50,52) into which a part of the projecting member can be located, the lock means having a body which is movable within a lock housing (56) of the first part or the second part, the direction of movement (B,-B) of the body within the lock housing being at an angle to the channel means



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
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THE HAGUE	26 April 2002	Kusardy, R	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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